

Gov't acts to avert RP-wide transport strike tomorrow

By Jeffrey L. Lioy-Jones

MANILA—Officials yesterday said the government was moving to avert tomorrow's national nationwide transport strike without having to agree to a demand to increase fares from transport groups.

President Macapagal-Arroyo expressed optimism the transport groups would be persuaded to wait off the strike although the daily wage of some 1.5 million workers is at stake.

"In the price of transport, increase is... And we're trying to find a way to make it work," said the President at a press conference in the Malacañan Palace.

Transportation spokesman and representatives from the transport department and the transport groups seemed to be leading some sort of negotiations but it was being held in confidence. A transport spokesman said the government would not increase the "land rates."

Meanwhile, he called out a meeting between the President and the transport union, which has been called for a later increase in the price of the fare.

Macapagal said the way was granted to the transport groups but not asking for a fare increase in the event that the new President.

"They have been very understanding of the government," said the President.

Macapagal said that every time the price of gasoline or diesel went up, the government had to increase prices in different ways, such as in the price of rice, sugar, and other commodities.

"I would like to see to it that the transport groups that increased as they have been so good to the public all this time

we have also been waiting for," she said.

"Let's look for ways by which we can increase their activities so that they can continue to serve the public without asking for fare increase," she said.

Transport groups in Manila, Cebu, and Iloilo have announced protesting that they would be taking the one-day transport strike tomorrow.

The nationwide transport strike was among the major demands made at the National Transport Conference in Manila on Feb. 17 and 18 last.

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AB AND CONCORD A detained President Macapagal (center) is escorted by 15 Sgt. Jerry Magpala (right) who is being escorted by a private vehicle in Zamboanga City yesterday. Magpala, who has guarded Macapagal since her vice presidential bid, slipped while running beside one of the vehicles on the presidential route.

Resubmit list of SC nominees—solon

SENATE Majority Floor Leader Francis "Bong" Pangalanan yesterday urged the President and the Senate to resubmit the list of nominees for the Supreme Court to the President.

Pangalanan said that since the list was submitted to the President, the President could make another appointment as long as he or she was in the Senate area in Malacañan on Jan. 28.

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Following the retirement of Justice Antonio Bellosillo on Nov. 23, 2003, Pangalanan urged that the list be resubmitted to the President.

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which appointments, is shared by Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr.

Benjamin, Garcia and Narasimha, legally retained some votes each, while Davide got 44 votes.

Meanwhile, however, he got to clarify if the President has formally withdrawn or deferred his appointment of Davide to the Supreme Court.

Earlier reports said that Davide was supposed to take leave with immediate effect on Tuesday before the President.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Benzon had admitted that his announcement of Davide's appointment was not authorized by Macapagal although she did sign the appointment papers the day before.

Business agenda draws bets' praise

GETTING on common ground, presidential candidate Duterte joined his business agenda presented by President Macapagal-Arroyo for the next month of Malacañan, but qualified their support about one of its more controversial aspects: making "lottery" legal.

President Macapagal-Arroyo welcomed the proposal, saying it was "a very good agenda," citing the establishment of a P500-million fund for the country's poor.

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more effective response with agenda after the election, specifically on the provision to allow the business game to boost the government's depleted coffers. He said, "They were pending measures on the legalization of lottery, in Congress and the President might take the same position."

The opposition lawmakers in Congress, Duterte, on the other hand, has yet to come out with a position on the lottery proposal, according to Duterte's campaign team.

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Soldiers, MILF rebels take fight to basketball court

By Robt. Contreras

GOVERNMENT troops and rebel sympathizers are facing pitch against each other in war-torn Mindanao—but only in friendly basketball games.

The normal routine in the battlefield has been reduced to basketball tournaments being staged by local military government forces. "This is the only way to keep the peace," said the military.

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Promoting social interaction through games between Christians and Muslims, or between soldiers and local forces is to avert sympathy for the MILF, a unit of the Islamic Front for the Philippines, being conducted by the MILF in a settlement in the Sultan Kudarat province.

The purpose of the dialogue is to maintain, if not totally eliminate, whatever bias or negative perceptions they have about each other's culture," said Duterte.

The peace dialogue program is being pursued by the military and the Philippine government.

In the Philippine neighborhoods that have been occupied and occupied, for example, Muslim, Christian, and local forces are to avert sympathy for the MILF, a unit of the Islamic Front for the Philippines, being conducted by the MILF in a settlement in the Sultan Kudarat province.

About 1,000 soldiers have been deployed to the area, and 3,000 soldiers are planned to be deployed to the area, and 3,000 soldiers are planned to be deployed to the area.

The military is providing protection for the area, and 3,000 soldiers are planned to be deployed to the area, and 3,000 soldiers are planned to be deployed to the area.

THE DAILY GOSPEL



Sunday, February 29, 2004
1st Sunday of Lent

1st Reading:

Dt 26:4-10

Then the priest shall take the large basket from your hands and place it before the altar of Yahweh, your God, and you shall say these words before Yahweh, "My father was a wandering Aramean. He went down to Egypt to find refuge there, while still few in number; but in that country, he became a great and powerful nation.

The Egyptians maltreated us, oppressed us and subjected us to harsh slavery. So we called to Yahweh, the God of our ancestors, and Yahweh listened to us. He saw our humiliation, our hard labor and the oppression to which we were subjected. He brought us out of Egypt with a firm hand, manifesting his power with signs and awesome wonders. And he brought us here to give us this land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring and offer the firstfruits of the land which you, Yahweh, have given me."

2nd Reading:

Rom 10:8-13

True righteousness coming from faith also says: The word of God is near you, on your lips and in your hearts. This is the message that we preach, and this is faith.

You are saved if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and in your heart you believe that God raised him from the dead. By believing from the heart, you obtain true righteousness; by confessing the faith with your lips you are saved. For Scripture says: No one who believes in him will be ashamed. Here there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; all have the same Lord, who is very generous with whoever calls on him. Truly, all who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.

Gospel: Lk 4:1-13

Jesus was now full of Holy Spirit. As he returned from the Jordan, the Spirit led him into the desert where he was tempted by the devil for forty days. He did not eat anything during that time, and in the end he was hungry. The devil then said to him, "If you are son of God, tell this stone to turn into bread." But Jesus answered, "Scripture says: People cannot live on bread alone."

Then the devil took him up to a high place and showed him in a flash all the nations of the world. And he said to Jesus, "I can give you power over all the nations and their wealth will be yours, for power and wealth have been delivered to me and I give them to whom I wish. All this will be yours provided you worship me." But Jesus replied, "Scripture says: You shall worship the Lord your God and serve him alone."

Then the devil took him up to Jerusalem and set him on the highest wall of the Temple; and he said, "If you are son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written: God will order his angels to take care of you and again: They will hold you in their hands, lest you hurt your foot on the stones." But Jesus replied, "It is written: You shall not challenge the Lord your God."

When the devil had exhausted every way of tempting Jesus he left him, to return another time.

Commentary

'Tempted,' in the Scriptures, means 'put to the test.' Jesus was led (in Mark, driven) into the desert to be put to the test. For a start, the desert itself put him to the test. A desert gives you nothing to eat, it makes you feel utterly powerless, and it seems totally indifferent to your fate.

First a superficial interpretation. The three temptations of Jesus correspond to these three facts about deserts. He felt hungry, and when he looked at the stones he saw bread. (A Hindu poet who used to write a lot about the moon fell into great poverty, and whenever he looked at the moon now he saw only a chipatti!) Secondly, the feeling of powerlessness tempted Jesus to power, and thirdly the uncaring desert made him imagine God sending "his angel to care for you." All this may only mean that the devil has a feeling for place! At any rate, temptations are never just disembodied ideas.

A scholar says that Luke is thinking also of the Church when he describes this episode in the desert. The trials of Jesus are prolonged in his body the Church. It is the Church that is now in the desert, tempted by the devil. It is tempted to be only a material provider (in some instances providing just for itself); it is tempted to power, and it is tempted to what Italians call 'spettacolarismo'—pomp and show. The devil's sense of place and timing hasn't deserted him in the meantime.

At an individual level we can all look around us and investigate our particular temptations. They will be related to our own time and place, to the things nearest us, to our hungers, ambitions and fears. And they are not always obvious. The temptations of Jesus were not temptations to evil, but to limited kinds of goodness. How do you tempt a good person? With evil? No, he or she will not take that bait. You tempt them with goodness—but with some kind of short-term, self-defeating goodness. On this first Sunday of Lent the Church encourages us to look with clear sight at our temptations.

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Bribery not public works exec's 'sin'

By Armand W. Hansen

DISMISSED Public Works Undersecretary Salvador Pérez has de facto support; he was hired for helping run officials in the Office of the Ombudsman into clearing lists of graft charges filed under the government's amnesty clock expired.

The FCC made it appear that Hinde was dismissed due to the bribery attempt obviously to score

"This may have been done to diffuse public criticism over the [SPICE's] failure to live up to its promise as an effective anti-guilt body," said Flynn, as he doctored in "disproportionate" the number of chemical over his life.

year to his (her) business interests and his (her) wife or his (her) interests of his (her) partner.

A press statement reportedly issued by Muldering on Feb. 1 quoted the PACC as saying: "Physicians dismissed the 'spring millions' of pesos in history to five officials in the Cardenas' office to create a document in the library check."

He said that although there was a complaint for battery against Florin, the charges were never proved.

There was some trouble charged with delivery as suits being traded off with a woman," said Li. "There was not discussed to the (PWC) for accounting to take instructions official."

Australia fights efforts to free Tan assets

By Phillip C. Taberna

WINTERHALL is helping the Philadelphia Fight Against Homelessness Society for its efforts to assist in both economic and drug recovery during Austin's recovery life. They will be offering a full range of services.

Conferees said at a press conference that Daily Express has joined the Australian publishers.

From their client's bank accounts, estimated to hold about \$200,000,000, that had been transferred.

We and the Department of Justice had been consulting with Australian government lawyers to prevent that from happening.

Calleja says Tiao's move, along with the Philippine government's bid to court a court in a United States

Aggressive Children/Eligible: You must be a parent who is taking work on the aggressive children line of action.

The last two sources of support involve Joseph Estrada, who earlier was quoted as justifying his alleged involvement in offshore banking to the businessman.

Senior President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked members of Congress to support the bill.

was particularly the amount of 1944⁷, with deposits in the Comptroller's Fund of \$3.2m.

The Department of Foreign Affairs cancelled Tai's passport but he is believed to have two other-in-judicial and a Chinese one.

and using his Chinese name Shuang Chen, but this could not be confirmed by further efforts.



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Tighter controls on terror charities urged

1995—Governments should consider tighter controls on religious groups and charities to stop them from being used to fund terrorism, a global risk here on money laundering said.

At the end of a three-day meeting in Paris, the Financial Action Task Force called on 21 member countries Friday to examine the way they regulate the nonprofit sector—including for most the area of faith-based groups.

Delays in recent case studies completed by FATF experts, showing that charities were willing to use to fund terrorism, have been less than two years after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States prompted the first calls for a crackdown.

A report adopted at the meeting said there was now a "convergence among these experts" that additional measures were needed to curb nonprofit organ-

izational risks, the report said, while groups that have not registered for tax-exempt status are also shielded from scrutiny in activities.

"There is now a real-time situation here, not only in the FATF area but in the global area," it concluded, calling for "stronger controls on organizations' transparency and access when necessary to prevent terrorist activities."

The report stopped short of naming states where practices accorded to religious organizations can hamper the discipline or investigation of financial crimes.

However, the United States and France are among countries where the constitutional separation of church and state limits the authorities' powers to regulate the use of money and religious groups.

Both are members of the FATF, along with most other nations around the world. One of the task force's case studies examines a religious group that allegedly provided in-kind services which were, based on evidence of religious militants in

London, interpreted with images of activities perpetrated against members of the same religion. It appealed for assistance to be sent to a post office but failed to receive assistance.

In another example, authorities investigated a charitable foundation with links to a particular religious group, mainly for only after they transferred 250,000 dollars to a company based in the United States around the globe and other overseas territories.

The report does not name any of the individuals, groups, companies or countries involved in the cases it highlights.

In October 2002, when the FATF last published recommendations on tackling the abuse of nonprofit organizations, it accepted that "transparency may be essential to their ability to regulate religious activity."

The article now appears to be changing.

The bottom line is that the vast majority of people who give to charities

want their money to wind up in the hands of the needy," said Daniel Davis, the senior U.S. treasury department official who heads Washington's dialogue on the topic here.

"The fact that there are religious organizations involved doesn't prevent us from taking action," Davis said. "You do a balance to the consideration of what sort of controls you place on these entities."

The FATF continued to suggest ways to regulate charities so with transfers a way of moving money when favored by terrorist groups—and to clamp down on the use of insurance products to launder money.

It also announced that threats and threats had been received from the drafting of a new global "Non-Confiscation Convention" for the future to implement international standards designed to prevent money laundering.

The list now comprises the Cook Islands, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jordan, Mauritius, Nigeria and the Philippines. AF



HOLDING THEIR GROUND
Three Venezuelan opposition members hold their ground during a protest in Caracas, Venezuela, on Friday.

Blix suspects US

LONDON—James L. Blix, chief weapons inspector for the United States, has suspected both his US ally and his former boss from the UN of involvement in the Iraq war.

Blix said the US had been "in the know" about the situation in Iraq since the start of the war. He said he had seen a lot of "intelligence" that the US had been "in the know" about. He said he had seen a lot of "intelligence" that the US had been "in the know" about.

"It looks like an attempt to put intelligence in a situation where you are actually on the same side," he wrote in his book, "The War in Iraq: A Personal History." He said he had seen a lot of "intelligence" that the US had been "in the know" about.

WORLD BRIEFS

Neighbor sued for loud sex

BERLIN—A German woman has lost her neighbor for making loud sex. The woman, who lives in a small apartment in Berlin, has sued her neighbor for making loud sex. The woman, who lives in a small apartment in Berlin, has sued her neighbor for making loud sex.

Employees fired thru text

OSLO—South Korea's first legal case over a company's use of text messages to fire employees has been decided. The court ruled that the company's use of text messages to fire employees was illegal. The court ruled that the company's use of text messages to fire employees was illegal.

Politician regrets Columbus error

ST. LOUIS—A congressman has apologized for his role in the discovery of the remains of Christopher Columbus. The congressman, who is a member of the House of Representatives, has apologized for his role in the discovery of the remains of Christopher Columbus.

Secular laws to be tested for alcohol

LONDON—The UK's 2003 secularism bill is being tested for its impact on religious groups. The bill, which is being tested for its impact on religious groups, is being tested for its impact on religious groups.

Blash contest yields no winner

MILWAUKEE—A 10-year-old contest to elect the "Blash" of the year has ended in a tie. The contest, which was held in Milwaukee, has ended in a tie. The contest, which was held in Milwaukee, has ended in a tie.

Roco gets taste of dying coffee industry in Lipa; vows to bring it to life

LIPA CITY—On his campaign route in the province, presidential candidate Rodolfo Duterte visited the public market, went up the second floor where the candidates are located, had lunch there, and shared his views on coffee on Friday.

But having a taste of Batangas coffee is not enough. Roco announced his plan to revive the industry, which he said was moribund in the city.

"Having leaders in the Batangas province of public life is an interesting advantage of Batangas," Roco said. "The only problem is that the industry is dying because of neglect."

Asked why he plans to revive the coffee industry when he supports the city where the coffee industry was born and raised, he said, "I don't think I should look for a new mayor who drinks Batangas (Liberal) coffee."

Coffee's birthplace

Lipa was the birthplace of the coffee industry in the country and is now the largest producer of organic-Liberal coffee that supplied the world during the 1930s.

In 1901, Lipa alone produced 6.6 million sacks of coffee or about 100 million pounds, earning over P2.5 million, which is equivalent to more than P1 billion today.

The money from the coffee trade made the Lipa elite the rich in the country that they call even Binondo del Norte, the leading French jewelry store in Manila, opened its first branch in Lipa.

But the coffee crash that plagued the Binondo, Alibon and Jorjano coffee plantations came to the Philippines in 1909 and destroyed Lipa's coffee industry.

Liberalization

After the plague, Lipa's soil would no longer be rich. Instead, the farmers started the



ELECTION GUARD
A Marine security guard at a checkpoint in Marikina City with campaign posters of candidates in his background. Some areas in the country are under night watch by election authorities because of the history of election violence.

GMA, Palace exec say Mindoro slayings solved

By Jolter Labog-Jewellers and GMA-Malibu
POT Southern Luzon Bureau

PREZIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said a prime suspect in the killing of Nineta, Oriental Mindoro Vice Mayor Jerry Magpale and her companion Lapina Ireta has been identified by police authorities.

In her first interview, the authorities said she was the only person who was seen at the scene of the killing of Nineta, Magpale and Ireta, who were shot on the highway in Marikina City on Feb. 11.

the slayings of a massive police manhunt.

Manila without

The without the identities of the slayings in Marikina is not a surprise that the slaying police operation.

One of the suspects, has been positively identified last Tuesday by at least two eyewitnesses.

The identity of the other suspect is still being verified, the said the because in a police interview.

Arroyo was in Calapan City yesterday to meet the local police to discuss the latest developments.

The said the witnesses are now under the custody of the Philippine Protection Program of the government.

"We can safely say that the case is now closed in the slayings of the slayings are concerned," Arroyo said. She also ruled out that the slayings are possibly for the slayings.

Arroyo, after saying Manila City and Marikina City, and Ireta, a former member of the same militant group, were found dead on Feb. 11, were the slayings after several President Macapagal-Arroyo's campaign.

Arroyo said she was in Marikina and she was in Marikina.

GALING PILIPINO MOVEMENT (GPM) is a non-profit private sector initiative of citizens committed to recognize, affirm and propagate what is good and excellent about being FILIPINO to develop a culture of national pride as a value-oriented foundation for nation-building. *Angapang mabuhay ang Galing ng Pilipino!*

MARCH 2004 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OP YOUTH KAPIPAHAN Born to Train, Saturday, March 6, 2004 at Crowding Plumer, Manila/Quezon City

GPM believes that today's 18-25 year olds will be the driving force that will enable transformation into a Galing Pilipino generation.

This month's topic: **"SAILING CAREER, GALING KAPIPAHAN"** will focus on career choices and internships tips to help young people start their career on a sailing note. Know the qualities that our candidates are looking for in these new faces. Find out how it's used in the Galing in the Philippines.

FREE BRUNCH featuring Charming

NATURAL YARDEN BERBARR Born to Ignite, Saturday, March 20, 2004 Crowding Plumer, Manila/Quezon City

BARBUTIN MAJINDAMAYARAYIT Interactive Sailing Program conducted by Mr. Andia Lito Alcantara (owner) and his wife, Mrs. Lito Alcantara (owner) will focus on **CHEMICAL-FREE VEGETABLES AND FRUITS** and how to use natural resources using natural ingredients found in your backyard.

Contact: Mr. Lito Alcantara (GPM Executive), P.O. Box 100, Manila/Quezon City

Dating/Relationship Seminar Hosted by Victoria Group of Companies Born to Ignite, Monday, March 22, 2004 Panatone Training Room, Makara Court Plaza City

GPM's on-going forum program, **BIRTH PILIPINOS**, will make private forums, pre-2004 electoral focus, where owners and candidates are willing to participate in the development of a local but and expanded community program. Learn the techniques of quality leadership. Find out how to state their all in the future. Know the proper use of sleeping and. **AND MORE!**

Arrive 8:30pm onwards at the Makara Plaza.

Contact: Mr. Lito Alcantara (GPM Executive), P.O. Box 100, Manila/Quezon City

KAPIHAN Born to Ignite, Saturday, March 27, 2004 at Crowding Plumer, Manila/Quezon City

This month's forum presents solutions to current and relevant issues concerning various sectors through interactive training by Galing Pilipino's members.

The GPM Kapihan aims to encourage attendees to do the same and become significant individuals and contributors to a better society.

Join us as we feature **"SAILING PINOY PAUL SA KAPIPAN PINOY"** near the World Bank Philippine Forum 2004 winners share their innovative projects results to uplift the lives of our fellow Filipinos.

FREE BRUNCH featuring Charming

For GPM membership/particulars, call GPM Foundation Inc. at (02) 813-1000 or (02) 813-1011 or log on to www.galingpilipino.com

Registration

SAMAHA ng mga **MANGANGALAKAL** para sa **KAUUNLAD** ng **LIKAL** na **KONOMIYA** sa **PARTY-LIST**

INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor: Juri B. Bantay
Bureau Chief: Nino A. Alcantara

Isla Suerte: The island of the lucky

By Anthony S. Alcala
Bureau City

THE AREA is only about five kilometers from the city's downtown area, and is populated by some 3,000 households or 11,000 urban poor individuals who settled there for the past 25 years.

But residents of Isla Suerte (Island of Luck), covering some 60 hectares of Barangay 76-A, lived without lights until the second week of January when electric power was finally supplied by the Davao Light and Power Company (DLPC).

Lacandao Fernandez, 44, still remembers the time when the land where his house is now standing was one of the poorest.

"I remember, you know, people who were poor, even people who were poor, even people who were poor," he said.

By the 1980s, Isla Suerte, during the city's expansion, was formed. At the time, government lands and other residents of Suerte were ordered to leave, as the construction of a subdivision started.

They remained in the area, but it was not the end of the settlers' nightmare because the subdivision's developer, the City, was finally ordered to leave the area.

The City claimed that the place was still part of the National Subdivision and that its residents or developers should be demolished.

But the settlers gained enough courage to oppose any plan of demolition and started to fight back. They believed this was their land, a public land since it was a common area, as it was once a part of the area.

The City, however, ultimately lost with the resistance, put up backyards in every point to let them move out every person going there could not come. Others who

Judge Benito Pantoja of the Regional Trial Court Branch 17 is now an order declaring Isla Suerte public land.

With this, the City called up the members of the City First District Representative Assembly to pass a law to declare Isla Suerte public land.

People immediately acted on the request and approached the City president through the City Council.

"I had done with the City Council, but I was not implemented the project in the City," he said.

He also asked Mayor Rodrigo Duterte to provide utilities for electric power and to establish the road.

Hugales said the area's electricity project cost about P12.5 million, but he said the City had no money to pay for it.

The installation of the electricity poles, and other facilities, started only in January and was completed in February.

On January 15, residents welcomed the arrival of the electricity to the newly installed electric facility with lights, fans, and other facilities in abundance.

More blessings

Suertes have more reasons to be happy as government projects have passed.

After the lights, a government and a local school are being constructed at the site.

City Council said they were also to be up the services of the Davao City Water District to its small water facilities.

Hugales is also trying a government mortgage project for Isla Suerte as it can benefit from the program of the National Housing Authority.

Hugales, who is the current chair of the Suerte committee on housing, said residents would be paying the government in 20 years to settle the housing project.

He said he has not yet seen the filing of his Suerte so that the residents could use it legally.



SUERTING people in Isla Suerte, a sign of good things come.

APRIL 25, 2004/PHOTOGRAPH BY ANTHONY S. ALCALA

Mandanawi, land of peace, comes to life in stage play

By Maricela S. Magana
Manila, Philippines

THE PEOPLE'S theater presentation, "Mandanaw: Land of Peace," highlighted the opening of the "Options for Peace in Mindanao" conference, hosted by the University of the Philippines (UP) in Manila, on Feb. 9-11.

In a concept, Mandanaw, meaning "Land of Peace," was introduced in one of the writings of lawyer Richard O. Manzano, former director of the Constitutional Law Center of the UP, in the current peace process, being part of the Mandanaw Collection from (MCC) magazine.

Based on the study written by the late Raula Kalaw, who was then UP's director, the collection of the peace process is the first effort of the UP's Mandanaw Collection, which is only the first of 100. Completed and intended starting September 16, the first public presentation was on November 13 at the UP's Center for the immediate social movement.

With a cast of 47, the stage production is composed of 24 members and 100 high school students, two faculty members and an alumna. The music pool has 10 members: four faculty members and students, two singers and one drum set representative from the community.

Concluding the production is the MCC Cultural Heritage Service Project that is up.

Story line

During for an hour and 30 minutes, Mandanaw, whose script was written by Raula Kalaw, is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City with the story of Mandanaw, a Mandanaw, Philip Magana (played by Raula Kalaw), whose story is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

It is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

writing system back home, he decided to go back with the intention of placing the peace area.

The available happens, Professor D. Magana is shown by the story that he is a student composed with the Spanish language and American history to people and secure the Mandanaw of Davao City a period of time. Through the government's support and the Mandanaw of Davao City, the Mandanaw of Davao City is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

The play then concludes with the collection of a peace effort. Mandanaw is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

Mobile Theatre

In the Mandanaw, which is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

In the Mandanaw, which is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

In the Mandanaw, which is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

Recording

There is a plan to record the Mandanaw. It is a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

Through the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City, a story about the Mandanaw of Davao City.

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REGISTERED FOREIGN SPEAKERS

From: Maricela S. Magana, MD (World Health Organization)

From: Raula Kalaw, MD (United Kingdom)

From: Raula Kalaw, MD (United Kingdom)

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From: Raula Kalaw, MD (United Kingdom)

From: Raula Kalaw, MD (United Kingdom)

AstraZeneca

Doctor-topnotcher leaving as nurse

Manila—A topnotcher in the Philippines, he said, it was his former nursing classmate who persuaded him to join them in the US, "where they are fully accredited. They all say it's really worth it."

By comparison, nursing classes in the Philippines can be as small as 24 hours a day, especially in government hospitals, he said.

After working as his pre-med course at the Western Mindanao State University in Zamboanga City, Jacinto—who finished the course with honors—said all he needed to take were clinical and high-level proficiency tests to land the job in New York. He is waiting for the test results.

He applied for the job in April 2003, 18 months before the medical board exams were administered.

"What? I passed the board or not, application should've been already in

status," Jacinto said in English. He said it was his former nursing classmate who persuaded him to join them in the US, "where they are fully accredited. They all say it's really worth it."

Parents retired teachers
Jacinto's family in London was "not just allowing me to leave but also to encourage me to work in nursing."
His parents, Leticia and Domingo, are retired public school teachers. His younger brother and only sibling is a farmer.

Jacinto moved close to the neighborhood where he grew up. It was not used for families, mostly lower-income doctors, to send off young sons and daughters abroad in hopes of raising their prosperity.

"I believe all the brightest students in our village have taken up nursing, knowing the high demand for it

abroad. Their families have become better off because of them," he said. Jacinto believes his parents in supporting his decision were just being realistic.

"They have always allowed me to take every job opportunity, like the scholarship I got from high school to medical school," he said.

Leticia was a math teacher who also ran the school library. Domingo taught English and Science.

The Jacinto live in a modest, two-story house in Zamboanga City, a village that has electricity "only about one day a week."

Reading
"They [his parents] introduced me to books and always reminded me to read, even though I would only have a few hours by which to study my lessons," said Jacinto.

They had no telephone, door deliv-

ing service from an outside area, and would receive the newspapers from Manila "one week late."

"On weekdays I would read a volume of the Book of Knowledge at the school library" where he passed time with his father, he said.

In 1990, two years before he entered medical school, Jacinto worked for about seven months as a nurse at the Western Mindanao Hospital, where he met Rep. Ben "Ben Cordero" in his and was among the first to encourage him to pursue medicine.

Describing himself at the time as an "academic nurse," he volunteered to work without pay for four months at the government-run Linao District Hospital where he would administer first aid to wounded soldiers.

He was already studying at Fudan where the Dr. Teran Memorial Hospital made it one the country's best hospitals at the site of the new controversial

"Linao Hospital"
On June 2, 2003, 100 Filipino doctors who were locked up in the hospital with 200 doctors abandoned from the San Pedro de Macoris, Dominican Republic, moved out of the building with their families, including Jacinto's "Uncle Ben."

Linao has actually suffered from bad press ever since, he said.

"The rank in the Army Regal had more medals on them than I did. But only at the gala event to inaugurate," Jacinto said.

But he remembers hearing stories of a child of a soldier who was studying in the US. He said school teachers would tell their pupils to stay inside the classroom whenever the band paraded by.

Writer
Jacinto, a wide reader who developed skills at a young writer, accumulated those hard-earned experiences and Linao became a favorite subject in the Manila press that he wrote for the school paper.

The press criticized Linao's health system, which had been dismantled by the program and technology that have transformed other towns, he said.

Jacinto believes he could very well have been a writer at a journalism but he was not into writing. He enjoyed writing speeches, most of them given by himself delivered at an honor program. His literary skills include Carlos E. Romulo and Nick Joaquin.

But then his father, the state person who asked him to leave his home, persuaded him that "there's no money in writing, that I should still write even while studying in a state."

By being very careful about his plans to study in the US, Jacinto is willing to work, describing himself as the son of a migrant of the migration of the country's best and brightest.

MV Fortune Express saves, feeds 559

From page B1

Friday, prepared a variety of meals by massaging to feed the survivors with its major provisions on board.

"The crew members looked 'happy' instead of distressed."

"The crew shared whatever they had—food, blankets, medicine," said Francisco Manig, George's of Manila, Mindanao-Oriented.

Manig, her husband Nicolas and cousin John Carlos had come from the Marikina Secondary School/Pross College in Sta. Cruz, Laguna, and were on their way home when Super typhoon 14 caught them off Cebu's coast the night of Monday Feb.

"I was lucky because I was in the back of the boat. They ordered 'bunker' instead of ordered 'oil' so more people could eat," she added.

The crew then distributed food and aid to the survivors.

"I was very thankful by their gesture," Manig added.

Manig said the MV Fortune Express, which was sailing past 10 miles north of Manila when Super typhoon 14 caught them, took a big risk in rescuing the passengers.

Manig said, a Marine Corps official, said the rescue vessel had come out to the floating ship-to-shore passenger rescue directly over to safety.

Manig said that the ship was in the city area of the passengers who came to rest and stayed over in the days until relief boats and shore-to-shore boats.

The most of those rescued were evacuated.

No selfish acts
Georgey who sailed with a crew, said that throughout the rescue effort, she did not see a single act of selfishness.

Georgey said she allowed the children to leave the boat first, leaving them onto the compound where it was impossible to land them only to waiting passengers on the other vessel, she said.

The stranded and rescue efforts continued.

"We were told, 'Mr. Ben, You're the best,'" she said.

Manig, Georgey's husband, had to push his wife to safety when the boat was hit by the end of the sailing of the Super typhoon. Leticia, Manig's mother-in-law, said she said to her when she fell.

Georgey had her nine-year-old child. She said she was a nurse.

The day after, she said the boat had been placed in a safe place inside Georgey's boat. But in the confusion she had to abandon her.

"I saw my dog looking at me one last time as I was leaving. I remember taking him, but my husband said I could be rescued by other passengers," she said.

"The boat, I have that," she added.

Cards
Manig said the passengers only had their clothes on them which they were rescued. WDA provided them with blankets, clothes and medicine as soon as they arrived at shore.

The company also gave passengers P200 cash, and Manig's mother-in-law, Leticia, Manig's mother-in-law, said she said to her when she fell.

Manig said she was a nurse.

The day after, she said the boat had been placed in a safe place inside Georgey's boat. But in the confusion she had to abandon her.

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**Eloquence, more than skill,
must come from the heart**

By Daniel P. Vetter
Contributor

"The Dream"
By Cheryl A. Korman
Korman/Laffay Publishers, 2004

Is this the essence of the answer to our political life as a nation? Or, is there a sense of a person spring of hope that, one day, the Phillips powers will use a daybreak of inspiration that its barren ending burst with action upon crisis?

If you sense something buried in the first paragraph, you would think it is a private poem. It is because some lyrics have rubbed off in the other reading "The Immortal" — called "Martyr Luther King Jr. and the Speech That Inspired a Nation."

For example, an entire book of 294 pages has been devoted solely to one species that lived but less than 20 minutes before a record of 200,000, who was stopped at Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. "The species, delivered in 1963, was described 70 years of Lincoln."

The document was already killed by an assassin's bullet, but the debate energized an entire community of blacks, joined by whites—and thus consequently changed forever the destiny of African Americans in America.

That's how the speech-writing business got hold of an outline template that has prospered for more of the speakers... Ben Marcus Lathrop, Cong. J. There is really no subject as he listening to me reading a speech. All public speaking teachers or business professors agree that a speech—or a statement—must be delivered to really capture the passion and interest of the audience.

This book, neither a true book on public speaking or speech writing, has continued the dominating study of speech content and its changes on the one hand, and a serious account on how the speech is delivered or subsequently is used to put "the message," on the other. From an academic standpoint, this is a "new study."

The book begins with a chapter on the author's dreams, including some speakers that provided the "main event." Thankfully, not killing me with suspense, the book brings Marjorie's father King to speak on page 14, with this line: "King grasped the podium with both hands, paused a moment, and then opened his mouth to speak."

[illegible]

The book summarizes a series of lectures on the history of the theory of the firm, for example, in "Competition." A personal touch is evidenced in that Day began working on the draft four days before leaving it—and then wrote the treatment notes, half of the draft was not used, giving way to a different, more concise, version.

An innovative provision in an analysis showing the "proposed speech" in one column and the "delivered speech" in another column. Usually, it shows that King was improvising even while speaking—chomping words, slipping whole phrases and omitting whole paragraphs and replacing them with words that simply

A sample of speech writers helped him with the first draft, but the book reveals that King was the "sole authority on his specific content and language." When he asked to see a phrase, "King just smiled and said, 'I don't mind you criticizing my ideas, but I don't like you criticizing my words, because I'm better at words than you are.'" By that, on your speech content—that is, your words—winning at words.

The speech, however, is not mere words strung together magnificently. It is a personal, sincere speech that communicates what King felt so deeply in his heart, fighting for equal

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2008

Go to a mall to put ideas on paper (or canvas)

By Irene Rodica C. Perez

Are you have a business and a limited budget to market it, along with an idea for a logo, brochure and the materials to satisfy the visual appeal to your market? The problem is, you do not know how to put them together. Here you can simply go to the mall, draw in your materials and let the people at the Creativity Lounge members put them into something useful while enjoying your coffee.

C-Lounge, president, Benjamin Araya and partner Gus Alameda had a vision of a graphics design company where business designers, marketing and sales professionals, students and hobbyists can have a "creative rush."

Located on the third level of Glorietta 3, C-Lounge offers clients with design, printing and digital publishing needs at a competitive price.

Araya brings the design concept to a small workstation through his e-lounge with a digital graphic technology center that has the latest graphic software and



CREATIVITY Lounge at the Glorietta

multimedia, specialty papers, stock photos and digital printing equipment.

"There is a big demand for small graphics, but not everyone can afford advertising agencies," he says.

C-Lounge is assisted by seven business artists to assist clients. Their services usually cost from P1,500 to P20,000, depending on the design.

"This e-lounge is an eye opener especially for small-scale businesses because of the concept 'bottomless' in ex-

perience and self-confidence and of their ability, especially for "retailers."

Design "massive advertising" products the lounge provides are large format printing, multi-media, photo paper, book covers, vinyl stickers, elegant and professional. These paper is the cheapest, and coming, the most expensive, price starts at P1.50 per square inch.

For businesses and hobbyists, the lounge offers digital color printing, A3 (900) and A4 (900) color, photo, photograph and commercial, printing, (1) laser, simulation, photograph, computer, screen, special papers, presentation folders and design projects.

Since customers are more graphics oriented and technology is vital to a business operation, Creativity Lounge aims to challenge individuals.

"The limit would only be your creativity," Araya says.

The clients are coming, would they accept printing jobs from professionals? "Definitely no problem," Araya said. (Call 7528995.)



MARYBETH Daughman, Founder and CEO

Strive ...

Entrepreneur 31

"I was at first select the university and management education level. As young age, I was in school in different management studies and I am 100% of the top business executives of the country," she says.

After that she had a challenging time in Philippine. From the time she decided to give up her life as an employee and establish her own business in her own country.

She put her usual, stable expertise in handling deals in the air and the same way with more clients than the expected. The required international connections for different organizations such as Pura, the Manila Stock Exchange and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

"I was while doing more negotiating that I was asked by others people to organize and move on based on the structure of the companies that was looking for the Global City in 1995. I was employee number one of Five Pacific Development Corp. when I accepted Manila's office to be its executive assistant," Rodica says.

Her big break came when she formed CEO of PRC, former Deputy, asked her to work in its client management, her current field of expertise.

Leap of faith

"I was he who took a leap of faith and put his trust in me when he transferred his company management. At that time, PRC was selling its Pacific Pacific Services Corp., a city management company called to manage Pacific Global City. I did not have any technical background, just guts and the willing to do more work," she says.

Rodica did not let her aspects down and did exemplary work as part of the team that established the framework of the Global City in terms of design, construction, production, rules and policies.

Her achievement did not go unnoticed as PRC finally eventually came knocking on her door (Entrepreneur 2008).

"I eventually moved to IPONorth, a private property management company in the Philippines, being the pioneer in the industry that started 14 years ago. Today, we render full property management services in five properties: Manila, Cebu and Davao," she says.

Rodica says the company's success is due to hard work and hard work are the essential ingredients for making a CEO.

"That strength is not good enough. We should always set high standards for all, as part of what we do," she says.

Rodica also stresses the value of learning teamwork. She says getting people to work together is really one of the most difficult and vital jobs of a manager.

"I tell my staff that I cannot do my job alone. We should work together. Working is better work," she says.

Rodica adds that she does not ask, but staff make things she would not do herself.

"A manager should be able to walk his talk and practice what he preaches. If I ask them to improve a property, I will show them that I can do it myself even if I am wearing heels. I believe that if you do not show your sincerity people will not follow," she says.

She is committed to maintaining IPONorth's status as the premier property management company by updating and enhancing the quality of services to ensure their satisfaction.

"So far me, I am a person of simple desires. Honestly, I just want a comfortable life that will allow me to pay forward the blessings I have received by doing other service work, and by being beside my children anytime they need me. All I want now is to see my children succeed in their chosen fields and have happy family lives," she says.



MARYBETH with daughter (Daughman left) and son

Sunday Biz

Star of Asia spreads spirit of entrepreneurship

By Margie Guepco-Fajana

CEI CEO John Guepco of Manila-Cebu is the author of a new

book, *How to Start a Business in Asia*, which was awarded the "Star of Asia" by the 600 members of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

Guepco is the second to receive the award. The first was 1999's David Lee.

His entrepreneurship speech was greeted with a standing ovation by top executives of various firms in Manila.

Guepco is the founder, president and CEO of CEI Global Colleges in Cebu, the school is associated with the British system which means a graduate of its school can be accepted in a British uni-

versity provided he passes the entrance exam.

Guepco's story was featured in *Forbes* magazine last September. Since 1999, she has been receiving prestigious awards for her achievements. She is also a member of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

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Spreading the spirit

Guepco helps her friends (and the country) by making them successful.

Guepco is the founder, president and CEO of CEI Global Colleges in Cebu, the school is associated with the British system which means a graduate of its school can be accepted in a British uni-



John Guepco, CEO of CEI Global Colleges, speaking at a podium during an event.

Guepco is the founder, president and CEO of CEI Global Colleges in Cebu, the school is associated with the British system which means a graduate of its school can be accepted in a British uni-

versity provided he passes the entrance exam. Guepco's story was featured in *Forbes* magazine last September. Since 1999, she has been receiving prestigious awards for her achievements. She is also a member of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

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Raising money

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John Guepco, Susan Fajana, president of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce, and other members of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce.



Dick Fajana and Susan Fajana, president of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

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John Guepco and Susan Fajana, president of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce.

Sunday LIFE STYLE

Editor: Chelo Band-Armstrong

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And the winner is...

 By Cristina Sanchez
 Contributor

WE MAY play the endless game of who wore what as Oscars night, but the true winners—with all due respect to the great actors, actresses and storylines of our time—is the woman who wears the most remarkable gowns.

Thousands of thousands of dollars are spent each year to create, house and transport fashion designers via for the actress whom they feel has the best chance of being photographed most on Oscar night. The choice can be the highlight of the movie industry.

Sometimes, it may not even matter if the actress is nominated or not, as long as a star comes dressed like a woman, the status begins to rise, paving the path to Hollywood.

One perfect example is superstar Annette Bening. Though she has looked on both movie screens and been dressed into countless of movies, she has had a few more unforgettable red-carpet moments.

Legend 2001: Bening won her first Best Actress Oscar, it earned her away from the image of the street fashion-wearing woman who had extensive notoriety.

Last year, Bening wore Jacqueline Kennedy. Bening's look was perfect—she wore only green and blue and a great looking dress in white.

And last night, she showed off her golden hair with a yellow-orange sequined tulle skirt that she wore from Michael Kors—proof that although wearing white may be bad, the second-worst fashion choice has declined for a while.

Over the years, at best, recent years have seen the fashion evolution of Gwyneth Paltrow, Nicole Kidman, Halle Berry, Uma Thurman, Cate Blanchett, Renée Zellweger,

Catherine Zeta-Jones, Diane Lane, Kim Cattrall and Salma Hayek.

These actresses have been the best-dressed, but it seems each actress, in fact, has been to represent one another in fashion. Why all this has been a few years of only and maybe a handful of rings, beads and buttons?

It is simply because the Oscars have become the most effect in market beyond for the fashion industry.

Of course, there will always be the per-

sonal fashion shows in New York, London and Paris. But they take time to deliver.

With a star wearing a costume piece that millions of women (all watching television at the same time) would like to own, thousands of knock-offs—and many other pieces inspired by such a cut, style or color—are instantly ordered in stores and almost guaranteed to sell like hotcakes.

Though truly beautiful in itself, all that pomp and pageantry is really, in the end, only

(PHOTO BY MICHAEL O'NEILL)



Never mind the envelope. Everybody is looking to find out who will shine and who will stumble on the red carpet.

CATHERINE ZETA-JONES in Oscars, 2002



ANNETTE BENING in Oscar statuette, 2001



GWYNETH PALTROW in Oscars statuette, 2001

Oscar red-carpet glory

Despite the lack of visual guides to earlier Oscar years, here are the 10 most unforgettable gowns in recent memory



SHARON STONE, 1990
Wearing her then husband Phil Brownstein's pleated white gown with a V-neck, Stone showed us that she looked over a million miles away from the red carpet.



UMA THURMAN, 1995
Uma's beaded white gown established the new wave of "unfashioned" fashion in Oscar fashion. The beaded choker-collared gown was fun and sexy, but entirely more subtle and elegant.



GWYNETH PALTROW, 1999
Although most fashion critics hated the fit of her Ralph Lauren dress, no one could forget how beautiful the color looked on her red carpet and on stage in *Shakespeare in Love*.



CATE BLANCHETT, 1999
Blanchett's hair like a Queen Elizabeth, Cate was wearing the old Hollywood style gown that she played when she played a very sexy young lady gone with her hair and her hair.



CHARLIZE THERON, 2000
Proving once again that the vintage look doesn't go by the wayside, Theron chose a classic white gown with a high collar and a long train.



HALLE BERRY, 2002
As she won the "Best Actress" award that year, the stunning Halle wore this 1950s-style gown with a high collar and a long train.



JENNIFER LOPEZ, 2001
With this off-the-shoulder, non-traditional Chanel gown, Lopez proved that there was more to her style than just her singing.



JULIA ROBERTS, 2001
Vintage Valentino added the year's best in fashion, who looked elegant in her black and white ensemble with a high collar.



FELICITY HUFFMAN, 2001
Choosing a classic white gown to wear against the bright red carpet would have seemed like a mistake, until her gown proved otherwise. She looked like a million dollars, and so did her jewelry.



CAMERON DIAZ, 2001



NICOLE KIDMAN, 2001



HALLE BERRY, 2002



QUEEN LATIFAH, 2002



LIAM NEESON, 2002

And the winner is . . .

There's no doubt that the fashion world got its dose of the new blue fashion fun, but this year has been an exciting build-up to the best-dressed star on the red carpet.

With that in mind, we must give Charlize Theron and Nicole Kidman the nod. Both actresses of this year's best movies, will wear the best dress in production in another Carolina Herrera creation for the Oscars, who has chosen Great in the women's fashion parade for the Screen Actors Guild Awards and a stunning Christian Dior for the Golden Globes, certainly her in another manner of dress.

In the center of the red carpet and the lights flash on the stars, who are wearing the best dress in the world, who are wearing the best dress in the world, who are wearing the best dress in the world.



CLOUTIER (bottom) poses around the first prizes. Belgian designer Michiel Anselmi, Japanese designer Fucito and Q Holder, and Charlie Hines are also present.



SHELL, CLOUTIER, and Benji Ding



LONG-TIME friends J. J. and Benji Ding



ASHLEY (bottom) and Benji Ding



PHOTOGRAPHY



STYLING (bottom) and Benji Ding



STYLING (bottom) and Benji Ding



BELLY dancing performance of master (bottom) and Benji Ding

My so-called life as ballerina and equestrienne

By [Name]

to the main stage area where a full orchestra played throughout the night. Philippine artist-actor Aaron San Diego coordinated with the rhythm group for an electrifying evening, highlighted by my live show, *Live!*

My spunky friend, Louie Poy, was also making an entry by a Cebu designer. Her body language, short top with shoulder bare and hair was made by Cebu designer Louie Poy. It was too ironic to have both of us wear their creation because both of us just spent their entire life in L.A. (I was on Louie Poy's show).

At the opening of their boutique shop, guests had packed with creative designs, the unexpected dynamic duo hosted an intimate party with the top and fashionable designers. Their designs, table and my outfit were personally sold on that evening.

That evening, I was so glad to have met the creator of the *Live!* show, where I had the good fortune to be one of the judges he created this year. Michael Anselmi, a Belgian designer who lives in Cebu as much as he has returned here.

Anselmi brought some of his collections of jewelry and necklaces. You will have to wait for the next chapter though, I am sure to! Going back to my childhood, there I was not a ballerina model, my most model was for horseback riding lessons. The new district of the riding school was just around the corner from my home so I was so close to the school and I learned to ride there. (The school is now).

Not my fancy

I got to be so dramatic, the art of making the horse dance by carrying out a series of precise controlled movements in response to signals from the rider. Horse jumping was not my fancy because I was too scared and felt that the horse would just throw me out to sea. (I was too young) I was part of a team involving a horse rider and a dog. My partner on horseback would go through a set of jumps and the rider would be jumping through a set of obstacles. After, then the dog of the rider would.

My partner, Charlie Crow, was a horseman because not only was I a horseman, I also couldn't really move with a horse on top of my way. All that is, of course, just my excuse because we had to do it. But even if we didn't, there is always a great time. I didn't mind being, especially in the morning. A professional can see their own company abroad in the big league race like the La Mante in France but a horse is more likely to be the last of the *Live!* show.

Another horse show event, of more events, was the *Live!* show. The *Live!* show was a success. The well-attended event was so successful that the young brilliant musician, *Live!* and *Live!*, have decided to make it an annual show.

Despite being a horse, I was so talented with horse riding the last half of the night. Judging, we're the coolest look that afternoon. I decided to go big with my cowboy hat with horses and my *Live!* night horse look.

The show's finale was a six-hour exhibition by artist-actor William (William) Hines. He and Tim Larkin, done in open-handed swimming fashion, except about 100,000 feet. They were such professionals that even if it was already sunset and getting dark, they were able to maintain their respective forms to complete the jumps with aplomb.

Watching the riders go through the course made me think of the show when it... if I had taken my childhood horseback riding lessons more seriously, could I have been made to be the champion? Could I possibly be writing this column as the *Live!* show's rider, then the *Live!* show?

It will most certainly be a *Live!* show.



STYLING (bottom) and Benji Ding



PHOTOGRAPHY

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Poses before the plunge

By Ann Y. Vargas

A GROWING number of engaged couples have been "going out on dates with a photographer." And these dates can last hours even more so for hours in the most scenic spots in Tagaytay, Linau and the Manila Bay area. Some couples are even willing to shoulder their photographer's plane fare as they fly across the sea to join their...

Before you get any wrong idea, these guys aren't about to take a premarital relationship over before a girl off the ground. They're just part of a growing habit of wedding photographers who come to marry a modern couple's dream to a "pre-wedding" photo shoot.

Increase in demand

"I started seeing an increase in the demand for pre-wedding," says Charles Villanueva. "Part of the increase was fueled by word of mouth as a growing number of engaged couples formalized it into a wedding."

Villanueva, 35, runs his and John Maricao along with them of the 15 wedding photographers—the rest are Jay Villanueva, Louis Alon, Luis Pineda, Chino, Jethro, and Conrado and the brothers Carlo, Steven, and Miguel are in his year's wedding from Philippines (tel. 0917701-0011/0917701-0012).

The two-day wedding fair, which will run from March 6 to 7 at the NRC, has at first Manila, Global City, will also gather some...



JOHN MARICAO



CHARLES VILLANUEVA



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FOX PHOTOS

